

The Republic of South Africa will receive the Distinguished Diplomatic Service Award that will be accepted by H.E. Mninwa J. Mahlangu, Ambassador to the United States. The IBM Corporation will receive the Global Education Award that will be accepted by Daniel S. Pelino, General Manager—Global Public Sector. The George Mason University will receive the Educator of the Year Award that will be accepted by Dr. Angel Cabrera, President. The National Geographic Society will receive the Global Communications Award that will be accepted by Gary E. Knell, President and CEO. The Keynote Address will be delivered by the United States Secretary of Defense, the Honorable Ashton Carter, who will also receive an International Public Service Award.

The World Affairs Council—DC Board of Directors is composed of an outstanding and dedicated voluntary group of individuals, many of whom are nationally and internationally recognized civic, corporate, education, and former diplomatic and government leaders. Along with a dedicated professional staff, strategic partners, members, and volunteers, the WAC—DC is committed to helping make our nation and world a better place for this and future generations through its global education, international affairs and global communications programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding programs that are being provided nationally and internationally by the World Affairs Council—Washington, DC.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, I missed Roll Call Votes 124 through 126 due to my necessary attendance in Massachusetts at a memorial service for Ms. Tiffany Johnson, who ably served the House of Representatives and the nation as my Democratic Counsel for the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations of the Committee on the Judiciary. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

1. On Roll Call 124, I would have voted AYE—(Final Passage of H.R. 4596, Small Business Broadband Deployment Act).
2. On Roll Call 125, I would have voted AYE—(H.R. 4416, To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project).
3. On Roll Call 126, I would have voted AYE—(H.R. 4434, To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project).

HONORING KELLAN CAMPBELL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kellan Campbell. Kellan is a very special young man who has

exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 394, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kellan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kellan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kellan contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Kellan remarked 131 curbs for Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Raytown, Missouri. Since the cemetery has no headstones, the curbs markers assist families in locating their deceased loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kellan Campbell for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE LIBERTY COUNTY MEN'S HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Liberty County men's high school basketball team on their State Championship title.

On March 3rd, 2016, the Panthers defeated Jonesboro High School from north Georgia to win the Class AAAA State Championship and the school's first ever State Championship in any sport.

Davion Mitchell, an impressive player for the team all year, scored 14 points—all in the second half. The Macon Coliseum crowd erupted during the game when Mitchell, who has already committed to play basketball at Auburn University, scored his first points of the game in the second half.

The team's scoring was led by Richard LeCounte with 20 points and Will Richardson with 19 points. Jaalon Frazier helped the team tremendously on the defensive end by grabbing 15 rebounds.

I would like to congratulate each member of the Liberty County men's basketball program as well as their coach, Julian Stokes, on all of their hard work this year. I wish them the best of luck in future seasons and many more State Championships to come.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RICHARD G. LUGAR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE SERIES

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The Lugar Series is a political leadership development program aimed at increasing the number and influence of Hoosier Republican women in

local, state, and national elected and appointed offices. It is my privilege to honor this strong Hoosier organization as it celebrates 25 years of excellence.

The Lugar Series is named after former Indiana Senator Richard Lugar, but his involvement with the group goes far beyond his namesake. In 1989, Judy Singleton, an Indiana businesswoman and volunteer on Senator Lugar's campaign, shared her dream of seeing more women in key roles in our government and in the Republican Party with Senator Lugar. She told him about her idea to start a program to educate women on the ins-and-outs of getting involved with public service. He was immediately enthusiastic and from there the Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series was born. Senator Lugar, Judy, and fellow co-founders Teresa Lubbers, Melissa Martin, Barbara Mayes, and Sue Ann Gilroy put this idea into action and in 1990 the Lugar Series graduated their first class of 12 women.

Since its creation, 449 women have graduated from the Lugar Series. Women who are accepted in this program have demonstrated long-term success and leadership ability in their careers or in community service and have a keen interest in participating in public service. Hundreds of these women have gone on to serve in an elected or appointed office. They have served on and led numerous boards and commissions, served as staff members in various political and governmental offices, and/or been elected mayors, state legislators, county clerks and treasurers, school board members, city and town councilors, county commissioners, superior court judges, State Treasurer, State Auditor, and Lt. Governor of Indiana. Additionally, the success of the Lugar Series in Indiana led to the implementation of 19 similar programs across the country. To date, there are over 2,000 graduates nationwide.

As a long-time advocate for women in public service and a current Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, I am familiar with the history of women in politics and the barriers to entry women face. When the Lugar Series was founded in 1990, there were 29 women serving in Congress out of 535 members, with only 13 being Republican. Today, there are 104 women serving in Congress, including 28 Republicans. State legislatures, local offices, and other elected and appointed positions see similar trends. We have made small strides, but there is still much work to be done.

As part of their program, the Lugar Series selects one outstanding Hoosier woman each year to receive the Nancy Maloley Outstanding Public Servant Award. Recipients have served in the public sector for a minimum of 5 years and display dedication to public service, a creative approach to problem solving, intellectual competency, and effective management and leadership. I was humbled and honored to receive this award in 2014. While there is still progress to be made, I am thrilled at the Lugar Series continued growth and success and look forward to seeing more women leaders emerge.

On behalf of all women, I would like to extend a huge thank you to Judy, Teresa, Melissa, Barbara, Sue Ann, and particularly Senator Lugar for recognizing the importance of educating and empowering women to enter public service and starting this exemplary organization. The Lugar Series has experienced